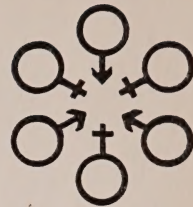




SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER



Wayne McKinny, M. D.
President

A NON-PROFIT INFORMATION, COUNSELING, AND ADVOCACY AGENCY

William E. Woods
Executive Director

Rev. William R. Grosh
Vice President

June 13, 1979

Thomas Riddle, M. S.
Treasurer

Dear Delegates and Interim Facilitators for the March on Washington,

Dwight Oviatt
Secretary

For some reason, I was selected for the Interim Facilitator's position representing Hawaii. Following the election for Hawaii's delegates to the National Steering Committee for the March, I became an alternate and eventually a delegate due to a time conflict with an original delegate.

Francis Viglielmo
Board of Directors

I am writing as many of the people who are responsible for areas designated by the National Offices, because I am completely excited and supportive of a National March and because I believe we have severe barriers within our group that will hinder or worse, destroy the march and community pride!

Diane St. Marie, M. S. W.
Board of Directors

Dee Preston-Dillon, M. A.
Board of Directors

For several months now, I have made considerable time available to research the ideas, processes, and personalities involved in the march movement. I've looked thoroughly at the criticisms within and outside this effort in an attempt to promote a working stronghold and effort at the July-Houston Conference. It is a must to achieve this during the conference if the march is going to be productive in continuing the growth of the gay community and to be fully recognized by the total community at large.

Stephanie Monet, R. N.
Board of Directors

Patricia Masters, M. P. H.
Board of Directors

Eberhard Mann, M. D.
Board of Directors

I have just returned from a three and a half week trip, spending considerable time in New York, Chicago, Central Illinois, and San Francisco. I further contacted leaders in Florida, Washington, D.C., Michigan, San Diego, and Los Angeles to add to the perspectives and ideas about the march and its effect.

Douglas Long
Board of Directors

Patty Henderson
Board of Directors

It is difficult to summarize but grasp the essence now that there are enormous problems associated with this march and particular within the process(es) or lack of process in its development which is considered a spectacle to everyone except the National Offices and their related leaders.

Walter Graham, M. D.
Psychiatric Consultant

Milton Diamond, Ph. D.
Board of Directors

To be clearer. The National Offices in San Francisco and New York have taken on an immense set of tasks and I believe are sincerely attempting to provide for the best circumstances for the development of the march, but are not substantially concerned with bringing together many different ideas and concepts related by concerned supporters of the march, to the point that special political interests of these leaders alone are determining the image of the march. To the degree that they have called a fund-raising button produced by the Boston Gay Community News a "bogus" . . . "Not reflect the politics of THE NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON," "button" in a recent media release

Judith F. Clark, M. P. H.
Board of Directors

Gordon Bronson, J. D.
Legal Consultant

Sen. Neil Abercrombie, Ph. D.
Board of Directors

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER from our National Office in New York.

2457 Kanealii Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

phone 524-4500

MAILING ADDRESS
Post Office Box 3224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS

*'An end to all social, economic,
judicial, and legal oppression of
Lesbian & Gay people'*



October 14, 1979

- Repeal all anti-lesbian/gay laws
- Pass a comprehensive lesbian/gay rights bill in Congress
- Issue a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Federal Government, the military and federally-contracted private employment
- End discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father custody cases
- Protect lesbian and gay youth from any laws which are used to discriminate against, oppress and/or harass them in their homes, schools, jobs and social environments

WHY WE ARE MARCHING

People throughout the nation are joining together to make the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights an inspiring and successful event, an event so important that it will propel lesbian and gay liberation forward in a way that hasn't been done since the Stonewall Riot. The March on Washington will mark an important point in the evolution of lesbian and gay strength: the coming together of people and organizations from all over the country to work for the first national action planned by the lesbian and gay community.

1979 is the tenth anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, the historic rebellion that helped to launch the current wave of lesbian and gay liberation. What better way for us to commemorate this anniversary than by mobilizing our sisters and brothers, as well as all our supporters, in the first national march for lesbian and gay rights. The march will be a celebration of our community solidarity and a sign of our political strength.

The success of local marches of hundreds of thousands of lesbians and gay men indicates that we can organize a huge national

march on Washington, D.C. The progress we have made in ten years is staggering. Lesbian and gay organizations now flourish throughout the country, in isolated communities, large urban centers and college campuses. Our issue has become the focus of international attention, and is discussed and debated widely. However, our power will not be fully realized until we unite our energies and resources. After ten years of growth and regional activity, joining forces is necessary for the growth of our movement. A massive mobilization in which all of our diverse forces participate is the essential first step to move us in that direction.

It is apparent that the March on Washington is stimulating more interest and excitement than anything we have ever organized. We have the energy, expertise, experience and the resources to bring about an extraordinary event. We also have a valuable network of hundreds of lesbian and gay organizations across the nation. It is crucial for local groups to plug into the march network, and this is happening throughout the nation.

It is important to remember that the organizing work, in many ways, is as important as the event itself. This is because:

—A network of organizations and organizers will be estab-

lished. Presently there is great isolation between groups and especially between different regions of the country. The march can capture the imagination of those who have not participated in local events.

—Local groups will be strengthened by reaching out to their communities and involving new people and tapping new resources.

—Trust and cooperation will be developed between people and groups working in coalition for the march so that we may work together on future projects.

The march will have other positive effects. It will heighten national awareness of our issues in a way that a small, local campaign cannot. It will serve as an important educational tool for both our community and the non-gay community. A demonstration will support lobbying efforts by showing beyond any doubt that a strong gay constituency exists in this nation, a constituency that is politically active and ready to mobilize. Congress must be pressured by a major escalation of our visibility and power which a massive convergence on the nation's capital can provide. Most of all, the march will be exhilarating for all of us and give us the boost we need to carry on our work. We will be 'coming out' nationally and greeting our sisters and brothers in a unified

demonstration of our pride, our spirit, and our determination to have our rights.

The march will mobilize lesbians and gay men on a grass roots level. We will invite the participation of our supporters among women, Third World people, the labor movement, and other progressive groups in our society. Moreover, this march will be built by all segments of our community— young and old, Third World and white, poor and affluent, political and non-political, the disabled, workers and the unemployed. We will be in Washington, building a broad, mass movement to fight for our freedom. Our demonstration will insist on freedom for all gay people, and must reflect the anger and pride of our community in the face of government callousness, double-talk, and inaction. We should march on Washington, not to plead with the government for token concessions, but to demand and struggle for liberation and an end to persecution.

We must recognize that our strength lies in our diversity. It lies in our ability to organize a genuine national movement for lesbian and gay rights. Let the March on Washington on October 14, 1979 lay the foundation for such a movement.

...Announcing

THE NATIONAL THIRD WORLD LESBIAN/GAY CONFERENCE October 12—15, 1979

The focuses of the Conference are:

- to establish a national network for Third World lesbians and gays
- to establish an education and communication network for and among Third World lesbian and gay organizations
- to confront the issues of racism, sexism, homophobia and heterophobia among, by and against Third World lesbians and gays

It will be a working conference in the format of caucuses and workshops

Co-sponsored by the National Coalitions of Black Gays and the National Gay Task Force

Co-hosted by the D.C. Coalition of Black Lesbians & Gay Men and the Baltimore Coalition of Black Gay Women & Men

Special outreach to:

- Native Americans
- Latin Americans
- Asian Americans
- Afro Americans

Workshops and caucuses will be provided for non-Third World and non-gay persons

Location: Harambee House, 2225 Georgia Ave NW Washington D.C. 20001 202-462-5400

Hotel reservations can be made directly to Harambee House

Limited community housing and facilities for child care and the disabled available

Registration fee of \$15. Students \$5.
Make checks out to:
NCBG POB 548 Columbia, MD 21045
301-596-5865

THE NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS PRESENTS FUTURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

THE BADLANDS PRESENTS...

A LEATHER FASHION SHOW

Monday evening June 11
Christopher & West Street

SILHOUETTE BAR BENEFIT

Saturday, June 16 8 PM
53 W.19th St.

Featuring 'Often Annie' R & R Band
For women and men

STREET FAIR

12 noon—12 midnight
Saturday, June 23

West Street at the end of Christopher Street
Featuring beer, food, entertainment and info booths

Win an all-expenses-paid trip for two to

PUERTO RICO!

Week's stay at Lutece on the Beach in San Juan; \$500 spending money; Manhattan Limo to and from JFK; Day shopping trip to St. Thomas; Free dinners, brunches, discos and cabarets; arranged by NASSA Travel Service. 5 second prizes of \$100 cash. Raffle tickets \$1 each at your favorite bar, restaurant or disco.

MAKE IT HAPPEN!

**Here's my contribution to the
March on Washington**

I enclose \$_____

**Make checks payable to:
National March on Washington
for Lesbian & Gay Rights
156 5th Ave Rm 505 NYC 10010**

**I want to volunteer. I am
interested in:**

- ☐ **Media** ☐ **Outreach**
☐ **Fundraising** ☐ **Office**
☐ **Travel arrangements**
☐ **Other** _____
☐ **will need travel info**
☐ **I will be there!**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State & Zip _____

Phone _____

**See contact panel for organizers
in your area**

**My organization would like to
endorse the March**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State & Zip _____

Phone _____

Contact _____

July 24, 1979

NEWS RELEASE

National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights October 14, 1979

National Transportation Office
P.O. Box 3624
Houston, Texas 77001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Greg Carmack
or Ray Hill — (713) 523-6969

NATIONWIDE 24-HOUR, TOLL-FREE NUMBER ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST TRAVEL PLANNING . . . SYSTEM COVERS ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION NATIONWIDE TO WASHINGTON . . . SYSTEM USES ESTABLISHED TRAVEL AGENCIES WHERE AVAILABLE . . . LOCAL CONTACTS IN SMALLER CITIES.

Officials of the October 14 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights have announced the opening of a 24-hour toll-free National Transportation Information Center. The number is 1-800-528-7382.

Callers to the toll-free Information Center will first be given general information and a basic schedule of March Weekend events. Events currently planned include the March and rally October 14, a National Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference October 12-15, a National Gay Business Breakfast October 14, an International Gay Sports Expo October 13, Congressional Lobbying Visits October 15, various religious services, concerts and other events.

Next, a caller to the information center will be given up-to-the-minute data on transportation available from his/her area to the march — including air, rail and bus schedules and costs, hotel options and where to pick up tickets locally. Information about a limited number of no-cost, "crash-type" housing will also be available.

Finally, if desired, callers can be arranged in carpools. Using a computer system, this process requires early registration by both riders and drivers.

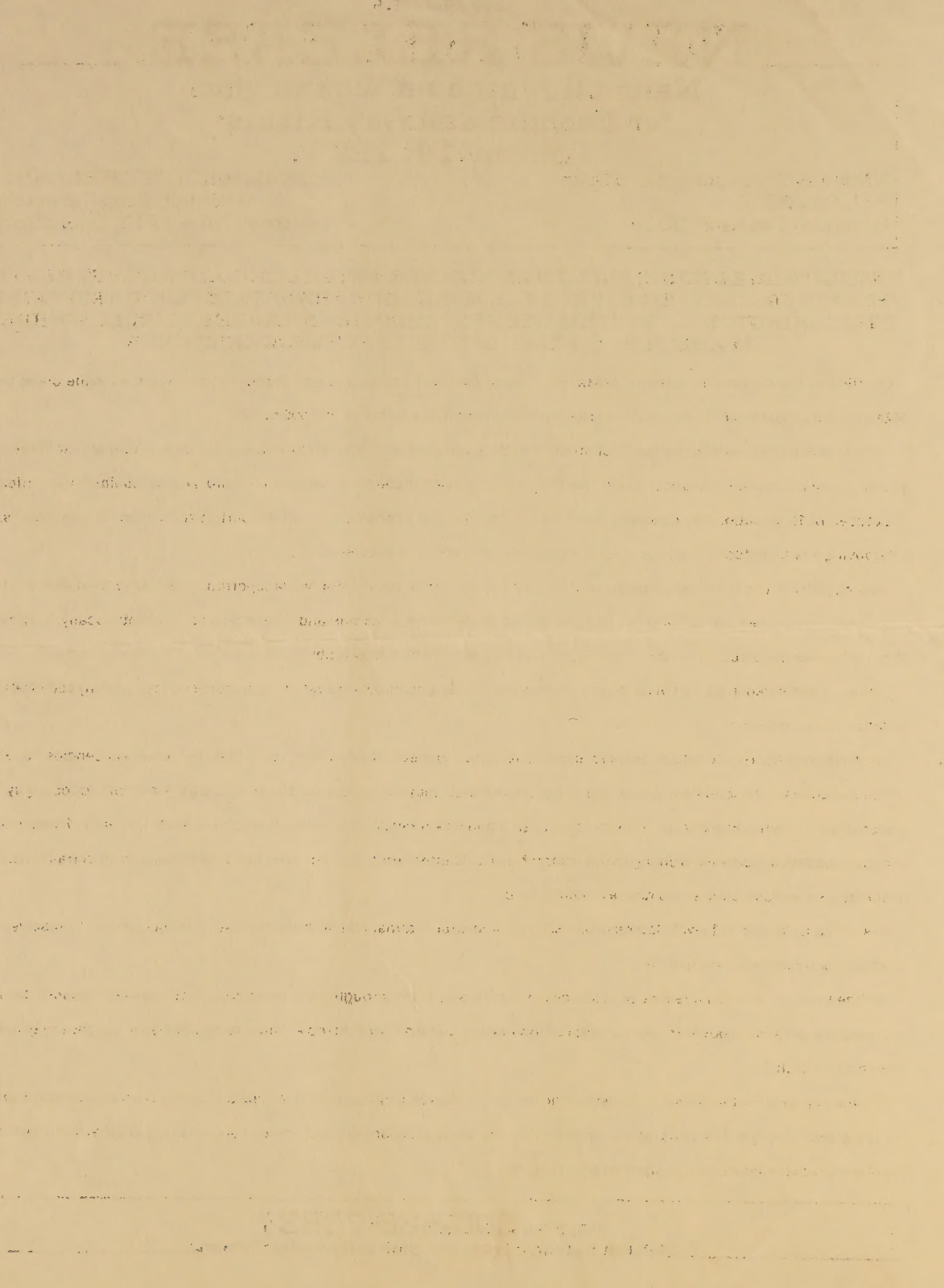
Information center facilities will serve as a hub for a network eventually involving more than 150 travel agencies in 100 U.S. cities. Because of the excellent group and excursion rates they have access to, travel agencies friendly to local gays and lesbians are invited to participate. Representatives of major airlines, bus companies and Amtrak have indicated an eagerness to accommodate agencies working with the March Travel Center. Already, block reservations for thousands of train, plane and bus seats, as well as hotel rooms, have been made.

According to March Travel Coordinators Ray Hill and Greg Carmack, march enthusiasts are encouraged to reserve travel and hotel accommodations early.

"The best prices and easiest access to travel and hotels now are through the information center," says Carmack, "however, our people must act soon if they want a ticket to Washington. March Weekend events are so popular that space may be gone within a month."

Final approval for the National Transportation Plan for the March on Washington was authorized at the Houston conference for the March July 6-8. The conference has been termed by spokespersons as "the first regionally, sexually and ethnically representative conference in gay and lesbian history."

Toll Free **800-528-7382**
24-Hour National Transportation Information Center



I assure you that these two major issues are not discussed lightly any where in the US right now. I have witnessed and been a part of many heated debates on the image of the march and its growing divisiveness over these issues.

My strong feeling and basis of attempting this letter to you, is that we can compromise our strategy to build the best possible national unity while also establishing the strong support for the many sub-issues of the diverse gay community.

If you have heard and understand what I've stated thus far please review the following suggestion and recommendation for the title and qualifying goal statement.

THE NATIONAL GAY RIGHTS MARCH (ON WASHINGTON, DC)

GOAL STATEMENT: TO END THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, JUDICIAL, AND LEGAL DISCRIMINATION OF LESBIANS AND GAY MEN.

Clearly the overall interests of gay rights is addressed while the special needs and concerns of lesbian politics is provided for. In this way the support of many presently unsupportive groups can feel comfortable with not jeopardizing their political beliefs.

The second issue of third world demands and support of their upcoming conference at roughly the same time as this march. Almost all PR from the National Offices has linked the timing of the march and the third world conference as being the political planning of each. I believe the third world issues are clear and necessary, but again are a sub-issue of the total gay community. While the march organization should clearly support and assist where possible to benefit their efforts we should not tie the two together such that to support the march you are in essence supporting the political ideals and demands of the third world conference. They are interrelated by some peoples thoughts, but many have refused to support the march, because of the linkage promoted by the national offices that support of one constitutes support of the other. For this reason I feel we must clearly promote the march separately, but not in opposition to the conference.

These are tough agreements to make. But I believe realistically they are a must. They are really not much side-stepping, but rather prioritizing issues from the general where everyone feels some allegiance to the more political - individual issues that only percentages of our community is aligned.

Everyone (with few exceptions) wants a march. They want it badly. People in Iowa New Orleans as well as the major cities want the opportunity get out and express themselves for a national effort. We have the responsibility to organize it so it expresses or allows the expression by everyone and not only special interests. It is hard to make such space but if we are to work for the gay people in our areas we have to. We cannot create a barrier political, physical, or otherwise to prevent everyone from marching and FIGHTING for what should be basically theirs, their rights to be total equal Americans.

The process is still a dilemma situation for us delegates if we are to show the world we are developed for constructive and responsible decision-making. I have not been able to gain any plan or criteria to be used at the July conference to develop our process for developing leaders to control the conference and to allow for development of an administrative "Executive Committee" of delegates to be the ongoing administrative check until march date. I certainly recommend that such an Executive Committee be quickly developed early in the conference so they can work out major details before

the conference concludes and communication will be hindered. I further hope the conference allows for regional sub-meetings to allow for unification in area efforts to plan and build their input to the march coordination.

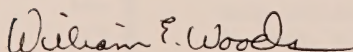
This planning is too emense to ever expect a handful or even a couple hundred highly motivated individuals to pull off. We, like the "end war" marches will take thousands of individuals planning and puting together a one day affair. We need a workable structure in order accomplish this and to provide the necessary lines of authority. By this I mean that we need a central executive committee which has the ongoing authority to coordinate the thousands of decisions that need to be made, we need at least the two National Offices if not more to provide a physical linkeage to the march effort, we need regional offices for working out the local efforts and coordinating those with the National. Whether it is this plan or another one, we need to make it clear and finalized at the conference.

We need to further establish that there are many perspectives on this march. Buttons, Banners, literature will have to be localized if an area wants it that way. The National March may give a simple title and and goal statement, but the inspiration for individual reasons for being a part of the march effort lie with each individual supportive organizations goals and purposes as well as the individuals not belonging to an organization. We cannot jeopardize their creativity, their varied abilities, nor their very real interests. We can join them in our National coordination but I believe for the most part, they will choose to promote their local involvement and participation in the actual march, rather than planning on activities on the day of the event, hotels for thousands, and public toilets. We are going to have many levels of involvement and we must recognize it.

Although not last of the important issues, we must make a clear accounting of our financial resources. We must make sure that excessive salaries experienced in the Dade County campaign are not perpetuated in this National effort. We must establish a system of legal and responsible accounting and processing of financial resources immediately. These resources then need to be regulated by the executive committee and/or their delegated administrators.

I am sorry this is so long and laborious reading. I am not a journalist obviously, but I am concerned. We need to go to Houston with a goal of unity and to get through the responsible work of organizing our structure and goals, then to the basics of organizing a giant march. We have to leave knowing the unity is established in the basic concepts of the march and put it to rest permantently. We must then direct all our energy with a united perspective of the march to carrying out the millions of hours of work needed. We have only one common denominator throughout the US, WE WANT TO MARCH FOR GAY RIGHTS !

Sincerely,



William E. Woods
Delegate to the National March
Executive Director, Sexual Identity Center
P.O.Box 3224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

156 Fifth Avenue, room 505, New York, N.Y. 10010 924-2970

May 17, 1979

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Since the conference in Philadelphia, the work on our historic March has been moving at tremendous speed on many fronts. Organizing is progressing throughout the country, in rural areas, college campuses, and major urban areas. Just keeping up with all the developments is a major task.

As most of you know, the poll of the Philadelphia delegates on the revised motion (replacing the fifth 'gay youth' demand) has been tabulated. It was accepted, 89-13. Five other persons voted against it, asking that all mention of lesbian and gay youth be deleted entirely.

Many persons did not receive their ballots; obviously, the list we obtained from Philadelphia was inaccurate, and we've made every effort to correct this situation. At any rate, the official fifth demand of the March is: "Protect gay/lesbian youth from any laws which are used to discriminate, harass and/or oppress them in their homes, schools, and social environments." Please use the revised fifth demand when listing the demands of the March.

You should have also received a mailing giving notification of the change of date of the Houston conference of coordinating committee and steering board members. It will be held July 6-8. More information on the conference will be sent soon. A number of subregional representatives have inquired as to whether proxy votes will be allowed at the Houston conference. For many areas, travelling expenses are a financial hardship which will prohibit the attendance of the full delegation. A decision must be made on this matter soon. Please reply at once.

Community meetings are being held at breakneck pace. Please remember to forward the names of the newly elected steering board members, their addresses, and their phone numbers to the national office.

A preliminary computer printout of our mailing list has just arrived and will be sent to you shortly. The entries are coded according to type of business, organization, or individual. We would like local organizers to go over the codes and addresses and forward corrections to this office.

A button design is in the works. A rough sketch is included. Once the button design has been completed, we will need to know how many buttons are needed in each area. They will be selling for \$1 each, with 50% of the net profit going to the local organizing structure and the other 50% to the national office. I.e., if the overhead is 20¢ per button, 60¢ will be sent to this office and 40¢ will go to the local office.

You will find enclosed in this package the proposed copy for a brochure. We are now using this locally. The 'fundraising events' panel will be replaced by a national contact list in the national version; in addition, the logo on the cover will be replaced by the button design.

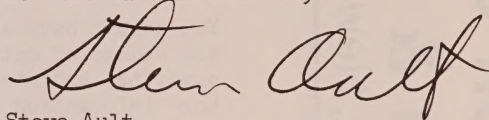
You will also find a sample endorsement form for gay/lesbian groups, another for straight groups, and a volunteer form, to which you should add a local contact address and phone number. If there is no negative feedback on these items, we will begin full production very soon.

If you have already collected some endorsements, please pass them on to us. We are keeping a central file of endorsements for use in future publications.

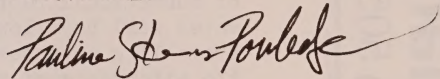
If you have seen any publicity about the March in the media, we would appreciate it if you would send copies and/or summaries to us.

And one more reminder: the phones here ring constantly. While we appreciate hearing from you, it would be terrific if you would follow up the calls with a letter.

For the National Office,



Steve Ault



Pauline (Polly) S. Powledge

P.S. The proofs for the button design are not quite ready. We will send them out as soon as we get them.

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights October 14, 1979

The idea of the March, which is the first national action ever planned by the lesbian and gay movement, has already gained a huge amount of momentum; all around the country, people who have never worked together before are forming coalitions, organizing regions, and forging communications networks. Although the March is many months away, there is every indication that it will rival in both size and scope any march that the nation's capital has ever seen. To make this project a reality we need your skills, your money, and your presence in Washington on October 14.

WANT A MARCH? YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

The standing committees of the National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights welcome your participation. If you are interested in learning more about these committees please fill out the form below and return it to the National March office.

Committees: **Logistics** **Media** **Outreach** **Fundraising**

Please check the kind of services you are willing to volunteer

—typing —telephone answering —illustration —copy writing —typesetting (if you can type we will teach you any other necessary skills) —printing	—filing —layout —graphic design —photography —pickup/delivery/ distribution (Do you have access to a car?)	—hosting benefits —mailing list maintenance —pasteup —copy editing —research other skills
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Please tell us what times you are generally available for volunteer service:

	daytime hrs	evening hrs		daytime hrs	evening hrs
—Mondays	_____	_____	—Fridays	_____	_____
—Tuesdays	_____	_____	—Saturdays	_____	_____
—Wed.	_____	_____	—Sundays	_____	_____
—Thursdays	_____	_____	—I would like to help when I can.		

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE MARCH. ENCLOSED IS:

()\$10 ()\$25 ()\$50 ()_____

Please make checks out to:

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS
 156 5th Avenue Room 505, New York, New York 10010 (212) 924-2970

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On August 28, 1963, there was the first mass Civil Rights March on Washington.

Lesbians and gay men were there, hidden in the crowd that cheered Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream.

There have been many marches since then, and slowly lesbians and gay men began to raise our own banners and march behind them.

Now, on October 14, 1979, lesbians and gay men will march for our dream: the dream of justice, equality, and freedom for twenty million gay Americans—the twenty million Americans who can lose their jobs, their homes, their children, and even their freedom. Just for being gay.

In Philadelphia, on February 23, we came from all over the nation to take part in a three-day-long convention. There were three hundred of us there, and we were from the entire political spectrum: we were urban, we were rural; we were over sixty and under eighteen; we were Third World and white; we were women and men; we were grassroots and establishment; we differed widely and we differed beautifully, as we always have.

In the course of that convention, we committed ourselves to a march, chose a date, developed a structure which insures participation from all segments of the lesbian and gay communities, picked the specific demands of the March, and drew up a statement of purpose.

And we began to do something that no one really believed could happen.

The national mobilization for the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights will be a historic step forward. It will break down the barriers of isolation that often surround lesbians and gay men who live in smaller towns and cities. It has already sparked the formation of powerful new state and local coalitions which never existed before. The network that will emerge will provide the movement with a new source of continued political clout. We want your voice in that network.

The lesbian and gay communities have staged the largest public demonstrations since the end of the Vietnam War. This one, with your support, will be bigger than them all. That is why we are asking you to support, endorse, and participate in the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Please fill out the enclosed endorsement form. You will notice that we are asking for the names of at least two 'communicators'. These people will serve as liason between the March office and your organization, and will be asked to poll your membership on issues concerning the March. Your communicators will also be contacted by local steering committee members about involvement in regional organizing efforts.

Dear Friends,

On August 28, 1963 there was the first mass Civil Rights March on Washington.

Lesbians and gay men were there, hidden in the crowd that cheered Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream.

There have been many marches since then, and slowly lesbians and gay men began to raise their own banners and march behind them. We were there for the anti-war marches, last year's E.R.A. March, the recent anti-nuclear marches, and other demonstrations demanding a better way of life.

Now, on October 14, 1979, lesbians and gay men and our supporters will march for our dream: the dream of justice, equality and freedom for twenty million Americans. The twenty million Americans who can lose their jobs, their homes, their children and even their freedom. Just for being gay.

Three hundred lesbians and gay men representing organizations from every kind of background met in convention in Philadelphia the weekend of February 23rd. In the course of that weekend, we committed ourselves to a national march and began the long and difficult process to make it a reality. We began to do something that no one really believed could happen.

In the last few years, the campaign for lesbian and gay rights has escalated to the level of international prominence. It has suffered many defeats but it has also won some victories. We are organizing but so are our opponents. Our campaign is reaching a crucial stage. That is why the participation of all progressive people who support our struggle is so important. That is why we are asking you to endorse this March.

Enclosed is an endorsement form. You will notice that we are asking for the names of at least two "communicators". These people will serve as liason between the March office and your organization.

This will be a truly national March. The lesbian and gay community and our supporters have staged the largest public demonstrations in this nation since the end of the Vietnam War. And this one will be bigger than all of them if we work together.

With your support, we can continue in that tradition of justice, equality and freedom which is the aspiration of all people of good will.

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

5/7/79

Numerous facilitators from around the country notified the National Office that they would prefer to postpone the Steering Committee Meeting in Houston originally scheduled for May 18-29. It was felt that more time was needed to hold local meetings, elect delegates and raise funds for the trip to Houston. Also, the conflict of dates with the National Gay Health Conference was considered a serious problem.

This office conducted a poll of facilitators for advisement on this matter. The response was approximately 10 to 1 in favor of changing the date to July. The issue is settled and the new and definite dates for the Steering Committee Meeting are Friday, July 6 to Sunday, July 8.

Three mailings will be sent out soon. The first will include: a volunteer/fundraising form (fill in local contact); endorsement letter to lesbian/gay organizations; endorsement letter to non-gay organizations; copy for a promotional brochure; mock up of a poster used by the Northeast region and more.

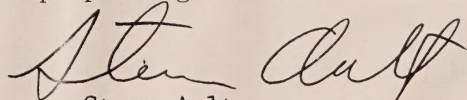
The second mailing will contain newspaper clippings with analysis of a rather extraordinary incident which occurred as the result of March organizing in Bellows Falls, Vermont.

In the third mailing, a comprehensive national travel plan will be presented.

Please send us reports of meetings and names etc. of elected Steering Committee members. Also, please contact new Steering Committee members about the date change as we have not yet received their names.

The system of facilitators developed in Philadelphia is working out extremely well. New areas have come aboard including Alaska and Hawaii. There is every indication that this truly will be a national March of historic proportions.

In unity and struggle,
Keep up the good work!



Steve Ault,
Staff Coordinator

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS
156 5th Avenue Room 505, New York, New York 10010 (212) 924-2970

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The enthusiasm and commitment which evolved as our historic Conference drew to a conclusion is continuing and spreading. Numerous projects are now under way:

1. A tentative route for the March has been proposed and the permit applications have been filed: authorities in DC have indicated that quick approval is likely.
2. A centralized travel plan is being considered which has the potential for bringing in substantial funds.
3. An elaborate computerized system is being developed which will provide for flexible and immediate retrieval of mailing lists according to region, constituency, etc.
4. A day of coordinated press conferences across the nation is planned.
5. Regional outreach is proceeding and many meetings have been scheduled.

Some problems have also developed:

1. The list of participants at the Conference gathered in Philadelphia is incomplete. People neglected to fill in correct addresses, full names, and phone numbers. This mailing will test the list. Please submit to this office the names, addresses, and phone numbers of those persons and organizations whom you know did not receive this mailing.
2. There are many inaccuracies and omissions in the official minutes. The Proceedings of the Conference which are included in this mailing have been edited to omit procedural motions (voting, photography, etc.) and to include clarifications, additional information, and corrections. Editorial comments are denoted by brackets. Please contact us if there are questions, or if you find errors and/or omissions in the edited transcript.
3. In the flurry of excitement which marked the end of the Conference, a very important issue was forgotten-the name of the March! One suggestion for the name is "National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights." There are obviously other alternatives. For the time being, we will have to use something. Also, the return address to appear on envelopes is a touchy matter. There are those who prefer not to receive mail with the words "lesbian" and/or "gay" on the outside. Suggestions include using "March on Washington" or an initialized version of the complete name. Your feedback is requested on both of these matters.

Some additional requests:

1. The phones here are ringing constantly with important information from across the nation. We, of course, want to hear it all. However, to avoid confusion and errors, it is requested that all organizers also communicate to us in writing on a regular basis about projects, problems, contacts, etc. We intend to make up an organizer's bulletin using this compiled information.

2. Much of our initial work has consisted of compiling mailing lists. It is requested that all lists and names of contacts be forwarded here. Please include a brief description. We will then forward appropriate lists to regional organizers and to project coordinators as the situation requires.

3. Many endorsements are made informally. However, to avoid a repetition of the misunderstandings which occurred before the Conference, it is important that all official endorsements be made in writing and sent to this office.

Last week, people from both national offices met in Washington, D. C. and had a most productive discussion. The major points raised included:

1. The DC office will not be restricted to logistical matters. It will initiate contacts with lesbian, feminist, and Third World groups. The DC office will also coordinate entertainment. Lists and new contacts should be forwarded to the DC office as well as to the NY office.

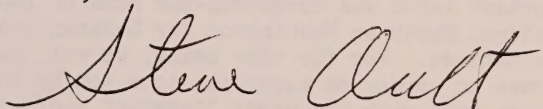
2. An essential outreach procedure was delineated. When contacts are initiated in previously uninvolved areas, more often than not it is with a white male group. We must make sure to establish contacts with lesbian and Third World groups at the same time. The DC office has extensive lists of Third World and lesbian organizations, and they request that regional organizers contact that office on a regular basis to obtain that information.

We would like to express our gratitude to Jack Campbell for his generous gift which enabled the Philadelphia Conference to take place.

One last note:

FUNDRAISING MUST BE A TOP PRIORITY. IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR ALL OF US TO WORK ON THIS NOW ! ! !

Yours, in the struggle for Gay Liberation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Ault". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first and last names being clearly legible.

Coordinator

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, February 25, 1979
Gay Community Center

PRESENT : A.B.S. Jones, K. Duval, L. Pinson, B. Santoro, P. Boneberg, J. Elven, D. Mager, P. Powledge, A. Candelario, K. Mason, A. Horowitz, R. Hill, S. Ault, R. Alheim, B. Moore, and E. Cooper. (Absent: S. Shiflett and R. Goldberger).

Selection of Ray Hill as temporary Chairperson.

Appointment of Franklin Kameny as counsel for legal and incorporation purposes.

Selection of Don Mager as recording secretary.

Discussion of office location. Main office to be in New York City with space provided by CLGR, 156 Fifth Avenue, Room 505, New York, 10010 (212-924-2970). On a provisional basis the COORDINATING COMMITTEE has office space in three other locations: San Francisco, Detroit, and Washington D.C. (see enclosed address lists).

The Resolution on Demands as passed by the Conference on Sunday, February 25, 1979 is to be adopted as the Statement of Purpose for the purposes of incorporation papers: 'AN END TO ALL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, LEGAL AND JUDICIAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAY PEOPLE.'

Selection of Officers and Committee Co-chairs:

1. Co-treasurers: Katherine Duval and Luvenia Pinson.
2. Outreach Committee: Rita Goldberger, A. Billy S. Jones, and Ron Alheim.
3. Media Committee: Brandy Moore, Luvenia Pinson, Paul Boneberg, and Pauline S. Powledge.
4. Fundraising Committee: Steve Shiflett, Aner Candelario, Brandy Moore, Betty Santoro, and Jane Elven.
5. Logistics Committee: A. Billy S. Jones, Steve Ault, Ray Hill, and Don Mager.
6. Cultural and Entertainment Committee: Amy Horowitz and Konda Mason.
7. Coordinators of the Logistics Office (paid staff positions): A. Billy S. Jones, Konda Mason, and Amy Horowitz.
8. National Coordinating Office (paid staff positions): Steve Ault.

Report from the Gay Youth Caucus:(1) A minority report on the 'revision of age-of-consent laws' portion of the Demands has been withdrawn after a joint meeting of the Gay Youth Caucus and the people who wished to issue a minority position. (2) The Gay Youth Caucus will publish position papers on age-of-consent laws in all fifty states and how they are enforced. (3) The Gay Youth Caucus recommends that 'child molestation' baiting and propaganda by homophobes and anti-gay spokespeople be addressed directly, in other words that the issue be no longer avoided, silenced, nor obfuscated by spokespeople for the National Lesbian/Gay March.

A difficult and candidly emotional discussion of the Gay Youth Caucus report and age-of-consent laws followed. The order of business was suspended while the members of the Coordinating Committee addressed each other from positions of emotion and conscience.

(NOTE: AS RECORDING SECRETARY, I FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO WRITE A REPORT OF THIS PORTION OF OUR MEETING. I CLOSED MY NOTEBOOK IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE WITH FULL ATTENTION, AS DID ALL OF US. BUT I BELIEVE THAT THIS DISCUSSION WAS ONE OF THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS TO OCCUR DURING THE ENTIRE WEEKEND, BOTH IN TERMS OF OUR SEPARATE INDIVIDUAL GROWTHS AND IN TERMS OF THE HISTORY OF THE GAY MOVEMENT. A COMMITMENT TO BREAK THE TABOO OF SILENCE WHICH HAS OPPRESSIVELY SURROUNDED THE TOPICS OF CHILD AND YOUTH SEXUALITY, CHILD AND YOUTH RIGHTS, AND CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTIONS FROM SEXUAL ABUSE, WAS CLEARLY ENDORSED BY US, AND THIS BREAKING OF THAT TABOO WILL RENDER ALL ELSE WE DO IN THE FUTURE AS MORE SEARCHINGLY HONEST THAN WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE.

AS A PART OF OUR PERMANENT RECORDS, I WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE A MORE THOROUGH REPORT OF THIS ASPECT OF OUR MEETING. THEREFORE, I INVITE EACH MEMBER OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE, IF HE OR SHE WISHES, TO SUBMIT TO ME PERSONAL DESCRIPTIONS OR IMPRESSIONS OF THAT DISCUSSION. THESE PERSONAL ESSAYS WILL BE DUPLICATED AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THE ORIGINALS TO GO ON FILE WITH THE PERMANENT MINUTES OF THAT MEETING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.)

In response to the personal discussion reported above, a motion was made by Steve Ault: 'We move that the wording in regard to the resolution dealing with Gay Youth did not express clearly the intent of the body, and that therefore new wording be proposed to more clearly state the intent. No statements relevant to the age of consent will be made until that wording is worked out.' The motion passed with both non-support votes and abstaining votes, followed by a further discussion which seemed in effect to negate the motion's passage, although no vote was taken on any motion to clearly define what the negation meant.

The New York Office was directed to poll the delegates in order to clarify the intent of the 'Age-of-Consent' wording. No further action was taken on this matter, however, inaction did not mean a resolution of the issues.

The New York Office was given the power to convene meetings of the National Coordinating Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Donald N. Mager,
Recording Secretary

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[Editors' note: We would like to thank Jill Jacoby and Anthony Riccio of Homophiles of Pennsylvania State University for consenting to act as recording secretaries for the conference, particularly in light of the difficult and often impossible nature of their task. Their services were deeply appreciated.]

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 23-25, 1979
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Host: Jeff Britton & the Walt Whitman Democratic Club
Co-chairs: Marianna Hernandez & Walter Lear, M.D.
Parliamentarian: Ben Gardener

Friday: Registration, caucuses, welcome, and announcements

Saturday: Plenary

Voting procedure: A motion shall be passed by a majority vote of registered delegates; a consultative vote of other registered participants shall be taken upon request.

Motion: This conference shall insure and assure complete gender parity throughout its proceedings and March preparations, leadership, publications, paid positions, and in all related areas. By gender parity, we mean equal representation, male and female, in all positions and totally non-gender specific language in publications, press-releases, and public statements.

There shall, in addition to 50% female representation, be 20% overall minority representation in conference/March preparations and leadership, and the goal to place minority-group members in a majority of paid staff positions shall be accepted. ['applies to D.C. office' hand written addition in official transcript]

Discussion: The above motion will not be strictly enforced with regard to voting at this meeting, but will apply as plans for further action begin.

Vote: Passed.

Presentation: by Paul Boneberg, 'History of the March.'

Last year, a committee was formed in St. Paul, Minnesota to begin planning for a proposed March on Washington. A position paper was developed and circulated to key contacts. About 4 months ago, political divisions within the committee rendered it non-viable and it disbanded. The files were forwarded to Harvey Milk, who was in the process of reorganizing the proposed March at the time of his assassination. Soon after Milk's death, 300 people from San Francisco formed a National Outreach Committee which proceeded to contact groups throughout the country. The announcement of the Philadelphia Conference, including position paper and questionnaire was distributed using a mailing list compiled from the following sources: NGTF, Women's Outreach Committee, labor and feminist movements, and Third World gay groups. [an incomplete summary of the responses to the questionnaire is included.]

Discussion: Pros and cons of the March and dates were presented for 2½ hours. Position papers were circulated with various viewpoints.

Motion: To call for a March on Washington D.C.

Amendment: That the March be held in 1980.

Vote on amendment: Defeated.

Vote on motion: Passed.

Note: Absentee votes in favor of the motion were cast by the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf. (Washington D.C. 2, Philadelphia 2, New York City 2, Chicago 2, New Jersey 2, Cleveland 2, California 2)

Motion: To hold the March on October 5, 6, or 7, 1979. (to coincide with the Third World Gay Conference)

Discussion: The date conflicts with that of the national conference of N.O.W., in Los Angeles. It was suggested that a new date be proposed for both the March and the Third World Gay Conference.

Motion: Withdrawn.

Motion: That the March be held in October, 1979, with the specific date to be decided later.

Vote: Passed.

Consultative vote: Passed.

Suggestion: That the March date not conflict with a gay event planned in Pennsylvania for Oct. 18-20.

Motion: That local activities be encouraged to occur simultaneously with the National March, and that the planning body for the National March insure communication and support for local activities.

Vote: Defeated.

Motion: —Repeal all anti-lesbian/gay laws.

—Pass a comprehensive lesbian/gay rights bill in Congress.

—Issue a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Federal Government and Federally-contracted private employment.

Amendment: To include 'the needs/interests of working class gays, lesbian and gay parents, transvestites, transsexuals, and gay youth.'

Amendment: Include revision of age-of-consent laws.

Discussion: Many laws not specifically directed against homosexuals are used to discriminate against them. Therefore, emphasize repeal of all laws used to discriminate against lesbians and gays whether or not they specifically refer to lesbians and gays.

Suggestion: Withdraw amendment concerning age-of-consent laws.

Motion: To adjourn.

Vote: Passed.

[The motion with amendments was discontinued]

Sunday: Plenary.
Parliamentarian: Kathi Dennis

Motion: To coordinate activities with groups which are at a disadvantage in travelling to the March, and that funds be made available to such groups to facilitate their participation in the National March and affiliated activities.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the word 'national' be deleted from the title of the March until there is evidence of true national involvement.

Vote: Defeated.

Motion: That regional meetings should make decisions that will guide the decisions of the National March.

Vote: Passed.

STRUCTURE

Motion: That a National Board be formed.

Composition:—One representative from every organization which endorses the March.

Purpose: To actively involve local groups in the decision-making process and to facilitate communication.

Function: Upon the recommendation of the Steering Committee, a ballot/questionnaire will be sent to Board members requesting input on major policy decisions concerning the March. Board members will also serve as communicators between their group and local, regional, and national structures.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That a National Steering Committee be formed.

—That the Steering Committee make policy decisions concerning the March.

—That an Interim Steering Committee be formed to include 6 facilitators from each of 6 designated national regions.

—That each region be sub-divided into as many as 8 sub-regions.

—That the facilitators will organize meetings in each sub-region, from which 4 official representatives to the National Steering Committee will be elected.

[It is suggested that alternates also be elected]

—That the National Steering Committee convene during the second or third week of May.

[The proposal included adding a representative from recognized national lesbian/gay organizations; however, this item does not appear on the recorder's transcript]

Amendment: That the Steering Committee be composed of 6 representatives from each of 6 regions.

Vote on amendment: Defeated.

Vote on motion: Passed.

Motion: That a Coordinating Committee be formed.

—That the function of the Coordinating Committee is to direct and coordinate the organization of the March, but not to make policy decision.

—That the Coordinating Committee include the chairs of the 4 standing committees: Outreach, Media, Fundraising, and Logistics, plus 2 staff coordinators from the national coordinating office, and 2 staff coordinators from the logistics office in Washington, D.C.

—That an Advisory Board be formed to include representatives from each of the following constituencies: women, Third World, youth, handicapped, and older gays.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the selection of regional facilitators be limited to those present.

Vote: Defeated.

[The chair entertained nominations for the positions of facilitators. After nominations were closed, the plenary session was recessed to allow the delegates to form regional caucuses each of which elected the facilitators for their own region.]

Motion: To accept the recommendation of the Southern Caucus that the South be divided into 2 regions thereby forming a 7th region.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That a 7th facilitator from the Northeast Caucus be accepted.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the slate of facilitators selected by the regional caucuses be accepted.

Vote: Passed.

DEMANDS

Motion: • To end all social, economic, judicial, and legislative oppression of lesbian and gay people. [statement of purpose]

• Repeal all anti-lesbian/gay laws.

• Pass a comprehensive lesbian/gay rights bill in Congress.

• Issue a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Federal Government, the military, and federally-contracted private employment.

• End discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father custody cases.

• Full rights for gay youth including revision of age-of-consent laws.

Amendment: Substitute the words 'smash right-wing oppression' for 'executive order'.

Vote on amendment: Defeated.

Amendment: Strike reference to age-of-consent laws.

Vote on amendment: Defeated.

Discussion: The Women's Caucus presented a minority position against including the age-of-consent laws with the major demands. An official statement on this issue is to be forwarded to the Steering Committee from the Women's Caucus at a later time.

Vote on Motion: Passed.

Motion: The date of the March be Sunday, October 14, 1979.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That Roadwork [a D.C. group] coordinate cultural and musical activities for the March.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the Steering Committee assume responsibility for further details of the March.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the participants of the Conference thank the hosts, the Quakers, for the use of their facilities, the co-chairs, the secretaries, and the parliamentarians.

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That the demands of the Empire Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf for equal rights be accepted. [included]

Vote: Passed.

Motion: That a total of 12 Coordinating Committee members be elected.

Vote: Passed.

[13 nominations were made and accepted by acclamation. In order to fulfill the requirement of gender parity, 5 more women were nominated.]

Motion: That the total slate be accepted.

Vote: Passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Third World Gay Convention is scheduled for Oct. 12-15, 1979. Contacts: Kathi Dennis, S. Billy A. Jones, and Juanita Diaz.

2. Address for contributions:

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS

156 5th Ave. Room 505 N.Y.C. 10010

3. Thanks were expressed to the interpreters for the deaf.

Motion: To adjourn.

Vote: Passed.

July 24, 1979

NEWS RELEASE

National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights October 14, 1979

National Transportation Office
P.O. Box 3624
Houston, Texas 77001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Greg Carmack
or Ray Hill — (713) 523-8969

NATIONWIDE 24-HOUR, TOLL-FREE NUMBER ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST TRAVEL PLANNING . . . SYSTEM COVERS ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION NATIONWIDE TO WASHINGTON . . . SYSTEM USES ESTABLISHED TRAVEL AGENCIES WHERE AVAILABLE . . . LOCAL CONTACTS IN SMALLER CITIES.

Officials of the October 14 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights have announced the opening of a 24-hour toll-free National Transportation Information Center. The number is 1-800-528-7382.

Callers to the toll-free Information Center will first be given general information and a basic schedule of March Weekend events. Events currently planned include the March and rally October 14, a National Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference October 12-15, a National Gay Business Breakfast October 14, an International Gay Sports Expo October 13, Congressional Lobbying Visits October 15, various religious services, concerts and other events.

Next, a caller to the information center will be given up-to-the-minute data on transportation available from his/her area to the march — including air, rail and bus schedules and costs, hotel options and where to pick up tickets locally. Information about a limited number of no-cost, "crash-type" housing will also be available.

Finally, if desired, callers can be arranged in carpools. Using a computer system, this process requires early registration by both riders and drivers.

Information center facilities will serve as a hub for a network eventually involving more than 150 travel agencies in 100 U.S. cities. Because of the excellent group and excursion rates they have access to, travel agencies friendly to local gays and lesbians are invited to participate. Representatives of major airlines, bus companies and Amtrak have indicated an eagerness to accommodate agencies working with the March Travel Center. Already, block reservations for thousands of train, plane and bus seats, as well as hotel rooms, have been made.

According to March Travel Coordinators Ray Hill and Greg Carmack, march enthusiasts are encouraged to reserve travel and hotel accommodations early.

"The best prices and easiest access to travel and hotels now are through the information center," says Carmack, "however, our people must act soon if they want a ticket to Washington. March Weekend events are so popular that space may be gone within a month."

Final approval for the National Transportation Plan for the March on Washington was authorized at the Houston conference for the March July 6-8. The conference has been termed by spokespersons as "the first regionally, sexually and ethnically representative conference in gay and lesbian history."

Toll Free **800-528-7382**
24-Hour National Transportation Information Center

National March on Washington

National Transportation Office

P.O. Box 3624

Houston, Texas 77001

(713) 523-6969

HELLO FROM HOUSTON!

As many of you know, our 24-hour toll free National Transportation Information Center (800-528-7382) opened for business the day after the Houston conference. Shortly thereafter, the National Transportation Office opened here in Houston.

Transportation now has two very critical responsibilities ahead: 1) lining up cooperative travel agencies in each city to work with the march and 2) creating a massive publicity campaign to expose the Information center 800 number nationally. We need your assistance in both.

AGENCIES - Please visit with as many travel agencies in your local area as you feel are needed to move a maximum number of folk to Washington. Discuss your area's march travel needs with these agencies and have them research what air, rail and/or bus space, as well as hotel, is available at what cost. Be certain to explain that a one per cent fee is asked by the march for their participation, then have them call their reservations data into the toll free center number. This gets your area started.

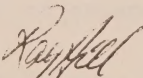
POSTERS - We've heard that the posters we distributed at the Houston conference are in short supply in many places. Please call your orders for additional posters in to the toll free number as soon as you can. In August, a new poster design will be distributed nationwide. Until then, please order as many of the current issue as you need to saturate all gay/lesbian gathering places of any kind.

RADIO - The National Gay Broadcasting Service here in Houston is cutting a variety of 30-second public service spots about the March, emphasizing the Travel Info Center 800 number. Please contact your local radio stations (especially public radio) and solicit their support, then order your radio spots from us here in the Houston office at 713-523-6969 (collect if necessary).

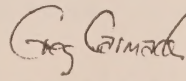
PUBLICATIONS - Enclosed is our first news release. Please take a copy to each of your local publications, gay and not, and explain what we're doing. Tell them the types of transportation you are arranging from your area to the March. Secure a promise that they'll print the 800 number, not just mention one exists. Offer the print and cut original we distributed at the Houston conference as artwork for the gay and liberal papers to run each issue between now and the march. We will issue Certificates of Appreciation from the National Transportation Office to each newspaper or other medium that helps in these outstanding ways.

Above all, please keep us here in Houston posted on your progress locally. We'll be at 523-6969 most all the time.

Love to all,



Ray Hill



Greg Carmack

P.S. - Cheers to L.A. area, where posters are up and more on the way, space secured for 800-number publicity in local papers up until the march, and radio spots running on local stations. We'll keep you posted on other cities' progress in the first issue of our National Transportation Newsletter - coming in two weeks!

Toll Free **800-528-7382**
24-Hour National Transportation Information Center

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

156 Fifth Avenue, room 505, New York, N.Y. 10010 924-2970

7 June 1979

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As you can see, the actual button was sent instead of the prints. It made no sense to make prints, as the cost differential was small. Many people from other regions who pass through the office were satisfied with the preliminary design. We in New York City are more than satisfied with the end result; in fact, several hundred buttons were sold within hours of their arrival. We hope you are satisfied with them also. If not, a new design can be proposed.

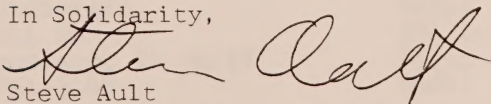
The overhead cost including production and shipping is 20 cents per button. It is proposed that buttons be sold for one dollar, and that the national offices and local offices share the profits 50/50. If you wish to place an order, make out a check to the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Again, the price is 20 cents per button. The profit share (40 cents per button) should be sent to us as soon as possible, so we can establish some capital and place larger orders.

The enclosed press releases are self-explanatory. More details will be made available about the transportation plan soon.

You will shortly be receiving a mailing from Boston regarding the Houston conference. Events in San Francisco and Chicago have had a very positive effect on the March. The latest states to climb aboard are Alabama and West Virginia. We have received massive orders for brochures, which we can barely keep pace with. We hope to have 20,000 more copies printed by this weekend. The cost of these brochures is one cent per copy, plus shipping.

Keep up the good work; we in New York intend to make a motion to expand the day to forty-eight hours.

In Solidarity,



Steve Ault
Staff coordinator

New coordinating and steering list

John Emery
P. O. Box 2553
Anchorage, AK 99510
(907) 272-3182

Jay Myers
P. O. Box 117
Tempe, AZ 85281
(602) 966-5090

S.F. March Office
540 Castro St Suite A
San Francisco, CA 94114

Don Amador
200 N. Spring St Rm M26
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 485-4408

Myra Beals c/o Lambda Assoc.
P.O. Box 26126
San Jose, CA 95159
(408) 295-1340

Paul Boneberg
596 South 10th
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 279-0161

Greg Carmack
4921 Pearce St
Huntington Beach, CA 92647
(714) 846-3131

Jeri Dilno c/o G.C.S.D.
2453 B. St
San Diego, CA 92102
(714) 282-4475

Ben Gardener
159 Noe St
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 626-1245 -h
(415) 626-4215 -w

Rita Goldberger
1998 Fell St
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 751-3148

Brandy Moore
631 Fillmore St
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 626-6471

Kerr Mc Manas
P. O. Box 9664
Denver, CO 80209
(303) 778-6178 -h
(303) 777-5770 -w

Skip Plumstead
P. O. Box 157
Terryville, CT 06786
(302) 728-0144

Sandy Suhy
81 Thorn La Apt 9
Newark, DE 19711
(302) 366-0581

Amy Horowitz c/o Roadwork
1724 20th St NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 667-0649
(202) 667-1597

Konda Mason c/o Roadwork
(Same As Above)

A. Billy S. Jones
P. O. Box 548
Columbia, MD 21045
(301) 596-5865

Mike Bardin
Dade County Coalition
P. O. Box 414
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
(305) 754-0008

Cindy Edwards
9622 Oaklawaha Ave
Tampa, FL 33617
(813) 985-6176

Margo George
331 Oakdale Rd NE
Atlanta, GA 30307
(404) 523-3508

Gil Robison
First Tues Dem. Assoc.
P. O. Box 7032
Atlanta, GA 30357
(404) 885-1382

Stephanie Fitzpatrick
916 Green St Apt C
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 536-9834

Bill Woods
P.O. Box 3224
Honolulu, HI 98601
(808) 524-4500

Joe Murray
356 West Dickens
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) 929-5104

David Floss
711 Tennessee Ave Apt 205
Fort Wayne, IN 46805
(219) 424-5315

Wayne Cushman
1311 Rhode Island
Lawrence, KS 66044
(913) 841-6000

Al Abbruzzese
4200 Saratoga
New Orleans, LA 70115
(504) 891-6222

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(301) 366-7120

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c/o Gay Community News
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(617) 367-1292 -h

Faith Robinson
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Douglas Carter
Town Baths
203 Central
Great Falls, MT 59401
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D.J. Munro
314 Goodrich Ave
St. Paul, MN 55102
(612) 225 4721

Larry Wiseblood
Renna Shep
P.O. Box 80605
Lincoln, NE 68501
(402) 435-6531 -l.w.
(402) 488-5340 -r.s.

Tricia Sikes
925 Sierra Vista
Bldg 3 No. 116
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(702) 452-3776

Dudley Bryant
P.O. Box 2372
Reno, NV 89505

Dave Cowdery
6 Olde English Rd
Apt 303
Dover, NH 03820
(603) 749-2342

Carol Demech
P. O. Box 5365
Trenton, NJ 08638

Rev. Louis deSpain
c/o MCC
329 Texas SE Apt A
Albuquerque, NM 87108
(505) 268-2937

Ronald C. Alheim
156 Fifth Ave Rm 505
NY, NY 10010
(212) 924-2970

Steve Ault
156 Fifth Ave Rm 505
NY, NY 10010
(212) 924-2970

Aner Candelario
201 E 38 St Apt 11
NY, NY 10016
(212) 685-6462 -h
(212) 766-3483 -w

Eleanor Cooper
251 W 18th St
NY, NY 10011
(212) 691-3679 -h
(212) 691-5460 -w

Sue Cummings
203 E 27th Apt 25
NY, NY 10016
(212) 684-0118

Kathy Dennis
98-25 Harding Expway
Apt 10D
Lefrak City, NY 11368
(212) 699-4301 -h
(212) 255-0352 -w

Juanita Diaz
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NY, NY 10009
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Kat Duval
240 Park Hill Ave Apt 5D
Staten Island, NY 10304
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(212) 832-2626 x222 -w

Jane Elven
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Woodstock, NY 12498
(914) 679-7951

Sharon Freedman
c/o LFL
243 W 20th St
NY, NY 10011
(212) 691-5460

Jeanne Gray
2130 1st Ave #2601
NY, NY 10029
(212) 860-4936

Vern Hall
c/o Rochester Gay Task
Force
713 Monroe
Rochester, NY 14607

Bill Hirsch
393 West End Ave Apt 12
NY, NY 10024
(212) EN2-1681 -h
(212) 775-1161 -w

Rick Landman
328 W 11th St
NY, NY 10014
(212) 255-8275

Jim Levin
59 W 82 Apt 1
NY, NY 10024
(212) 799-4558

Pat Lichty
226 E 89th St Apt 7
NY, NY 10028
(212) 289-6594

Curtis Mason
46 W 83rd Apt 8G
NY, NY 10024
(212) 595-8226 -h
(212) 977-2921 -w

Luvenia Pinson
252 E 7th St
NY, NY 10011
(212) 982-6280 -h
(212) 790-3098 -w

P. S. Powledge
271 Degraw St
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(212) 624-7007 -h
(212) 924-2970 -w

Betty Santoro
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Bayside, NY 11361
(212) 229-6723

Joe Smenyak
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NY, NY 10011
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Wayne Sunday
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NY, NY 10003
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Box 39
The Carolina Union
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 967-3379

Nancy Shaw
Len Runk
AWARE
c/o Chateau Ranch
Bx 177
Leonard, ND 58052
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Columbus, Ohio 43206
(614) 443-2420

Rick Lange
c/o Ohio Gay Rights
Coalition
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Akron, Ohio 44308
(216)-535-2358

Bill Rogers
7704 N. Roff
OK City, OK 73116
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(405) 842-3087

Aprile Collier
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Homestead, PA 15120
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Pittsburgh, PA 15213
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Rev. Marge Ragona
5 Junction St
Providence, R.I. 02901

Chuck Noice
44 Washington St
Providence, RI 02901
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Connie Waddell
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P. O. Box 8034
Rapid City, SD 57701

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(713) 522-4900 -w

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Ron Oruc
Apt 2022
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Houston, TX 77006
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Salt Lake City, UT 84106
(801) 466-2377

Sarah Van Arsdale
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(802) 257-7643

Donna Campbell Motley
c/o Norfolk Coalition
for Human Rights
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Norfolk, VA 23508
(804) 627-5135

Dennis Raymond
c/o Gay Community Center
105 14th Ave Suite B
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 322-2000

Joan Yelanjian
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Milwaukee, WI 53202
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(617) 876-2726-w

Michelle Delisio
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Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 774-3220

Keith Holt
20 Queensbury St #12A
Boston, MA 02215
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Trish Karlinski
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Roxbury, MA 02120
(617) 277-1605

Sharon Page
P O Box 114
Auburndale, MA 02166
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(617) 891-8125-h

Sandy Resnick
12 Athol St
Allston, MA 02134
(617) 782-7685

Lee Stone
6 Centre Place
Roxbury, MA 02119
(617) 427-2778

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

8 June 1979

Dear Sisters and Brothers;

The National Steering Committee meeting scheduled for Houston July 6-8 is drawing near and the time is at hand to solicit input into the process and agenda for that meeting. Many people have expressed a desire that a process format be devised for the Houston meeting which will enable open communication reflecting the diverse interests of the lesbian and gay community, and facilitate decision-making. Also, people have indicated they have issues and motions regarding the March they would like considered by the Steering Committee.

We have assumed initial responsibility for gathering agenda items and developing a process format for that meeting. To facilitate our job and ensure diverse input, we are soliciting your thoughts and ideas about the meeting, the continuing organizational structure and the March itself prior to gathering in Houston. Please send any suggestions you have on agenda or process, thoughts about the Philadelphia meeting, resolutions adopted at your local/state meetings and items you would like considered by the Steering Committee by JUNE 29TH to:

David Knudsen
Rt. 5 Box 324
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

It may be impossible to place ALL suggestions on the agenda, yet trust that all items will be considered and that agenda priorities will reflect as broad a base as possible. Please indicate if you have areas of expertise (group facilitation, etc.) you would be willing to share. Also, if you represent a constituency requiring time and space or feel strongly about a particular political/lifestyle perspective, please let us know so, if possible, that can be included in the weekend.

We hope to formulate a committee of six to eight persons, geographically distributed with gender parity and Third World representation to consider these issues, thoughts and motions and create a workable communication and decision-making format for Houston. A meeting is scheduled for this group beginning at 2 P.M. on Thursday, July 5th in Houston, hopefully allowing enough time to organize this information into a usable format for the regular meeting beginning at 6 P.M. on Friday. If you are interested in working on this committee and can arrive early in Houston, please contact us, including any pertinent information which would be helpful in assembling a working committee.

Feel free to call David at (919) 967-3379 between 7 & 10 P.M. EDT or Eric at Gay Community News, (617) 426-4469. Thanks for your input. We are looking forward to a productive meeting in Houston to lay the groundwork for Washington in October.

In celebration and struggle,

Eric Rofes
Eric Rofes
Boston

David Knudsen
David Knudsen
Chapel Hill

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

156 Fifth Avenue, room 505, New York, N.Y. 10010 924-2970

media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dated: June 3, 1979

Contact: Steve Ault/Tom Abrams
National Office
New York, N. Y.
(212) 924 - 2970

HEADLINE: Watch out for Bogus Button.

The National March On Washington, for Lesbian and Gay Rights, formally disassociates itself from a recent button advertisement, appearing in THE GAY COMMUNITY NEWS OF BOSTON, and possibly other lesbian and gay publications, currently circulating the country.

The following advertisement was not produced nor authorized by THE NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON. It is presently "in production" despite our objections.

**WEAR A BUTTON!
MAKE YOURSELF VISIBLE**



**50% OF PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT
"THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON"**

Check payable to:

NATIONAL GAY MARCH BUTTONS
332A SANCHEZ STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

PLEASE SEND ME:

_____ Buttons @ \$1.00 ea. = _____ Total

_____ Buttons @ \$.65 ea. = _____ Total

(min. order of 50 buttons)

Postage & handling charges: .25c for first button and .10c each additional button = _____ Total

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

--2--

The button advertised does not reflect the politics of THE NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON, in that it omits the word "Lesbian", which ALL our materials include.

In addition, the button is being sold by individuals who claim 50% of the profits.

The official NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS BUTTON is presently being developed. It will soon be available. 100% of the profits are going towards the March. Organizations wishing to purchase the OFFICIAL MARCH BUTTON should contact the NATIONAL OFFICE:

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS
156 5th Avenue, Room 505
New York, New York 10010

...or call: 212-924-2970

#30#

National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights

156 Fifth Avenue, room 505, New York, N.Y. 10010 924-2970

media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dated: June 5, 1979

Contacts: Steve Ault/Tom Abrams
National Office
New York, N.Y.
212-924-2970

HEADLINE: TRANSPORTATION OFFICE FOR OCTOBER 14th MARCH TO BE
BASED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Initial details of a nationally unified transportation plan for the October 14 March On Washington were released to the gay media June 5. March transportation coordinators say a logistics office will open in Metropolitan Washington D.C. soon.

The plan calls for a 24-hour toll-free information line to be staffed by a team of operators. News releases and posters publicizing the information line will be distributed throughout the U.S. in early July. A support staff will monitor the March transportation arrangements of over 50 U.S. locales keeping the information line up to date.

Additionally, a computer system at the disposal of the information center operators will help in arranging rides for March enthusiasts nationwide who prefer carpools to train, air, and bus carriers—already reserved in many local areas by travel agencies and local transportation committees in coordination with the national transportation office.

Agencies and other persons interested in helping to organize March transportation on the local level should contact the National Office in New York City which will temporarily coordinate transportation until the Transportation Office in Washington is established around the first week in July. The phone number in New York is 212-924-2970.

March organizers are now turning their attention to a national conference in Houston, July 6—8, aimed at wrapping up March plans. According to Ray Hill, Co-chair of the National Logistics Committee, delegates from all regions of the U.S., representing the ethnic composition of their home area will convene in Houston.

Says Hill, "Such a nationally representative body can guarantee the March on Washington speaks from the heart of the American lesbian and gay population."

#30#

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS

156 5th Ave. Room 505 NY, NY 10010 (212) 924-2970

media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...media...

Dated: June 28, 1979

Contact: Joyce Hunter/Audrey Seidman
National Office
New York, N.Y.
(212) 924-2970

HEADLINE: March Staff Member Kidnapped

The attached chronologies of events are being issued by the NY Office of the National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights to inform you of an event which took place Tuesday, June 26 - Wednesday, June 27.

These chronologies describe the kidnapping of Tom Abrams, a NY media staffer for the March. It is told from the perspectives of the people who were at the March office receiving the phone calls and from Tom's account of what he experienced.

The March has not been cancelled and under no circumstances will such an important undertaking be cancelled in the future.

For further information contact the NATIONAL OFFICE:

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS
156 5th Avenue, Room 505
New York, NY 10010

...or call: 212-924-2970

TIMETABLE COMPILED FROM INFORMATION
FROM STEVE AULT AND RON ALHEIM

Tuesday, June 26, 1979

9:45 p.m. Ron Alheim at March on Washington office takes phone call. Male, deep, calm voice begins to ask "Is this the National March?". Voice cut off/ hang up at word "march".

9:46 p.m. Ron Alheim at March on Washington office takes phone call. Same voice as at 9:45 p.m. Conversation follows: (Text is as Ron remembers it.)

Voice: This is very important. I need to speak to the person in charge of the National March.

Ron: I'm in the middle of a meeting, but I'll try to answer your questions. I'm one of the national coordinators. Other coordinators are on the other lines right now.

Voice: Do you have a Tom Abrams on your staff?

Ron: Yes, he is on our media committee.

Voice: We have Tom Abrams. Unless you go on national television and cancel the national march on Washington, we will assassinate him.

Hang up.

9:49 p.m. Ron calls Steve Ault, Betty Santoro, Rick Landman, Audrey Seidman and Mike Christian into printing room to explain situation.

10:00 p.m. They call the 10th precinct, and are then sent to the 13th precinct. Speak with Detective Oricoli at the 13th precinct, who arrived at the March office at 10:15 with Detective Kline.

FBI was also contacted. William Lenhan of the FBI told Ron Alheim that the FBI cannot get involved unless there is evidence of either a ransom note or of the crossing of state lines.

Calls were also made to coordinators and steering committee people throughout the country, including San Francisco March office, Pittsburgh, Washington, Houston, Chicago, and Boston.

Wednesday, June 27, 1979

10:30 pm - 12:53 a.m. Speak with 13th precinct police, who had a car sent to Tom Abrams' house in Far ~~East~~ Rockaway.

Speak with people around the country to make sure they hadn't experienced similar activity.

Speak with FBI, repeat of last phone call.

Kept trying to call Tom's residence.

12:53 a.m. Call received by Ron Alheim from Tom Abrams calling from Long Beach (operator had traced the call already). On another line, Mike Christian called 13th precinct, who may have contacted Long Beach police (otherwise the phone operator did) to pick Tom up.

Tom sounded confused and incoherent. He asked, "Why me? Why did this happen to me?" He said he felt dizzy and nauseous, and that he was not sure where he was calling from. He said he felt like falling down.

1:06 a.m. Long Beach police pick him up at Long Beach. Told Alheim they would take Tom to the hospital.

1:25 a.m. (approx.) Arrive at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. At hospital Det. Portee said that Tom was awake and talking, and the doctors examined him. He reported that Tom was alright, and that we would have to talk with the doctor on duty.

2:00 a.m. Steve Ault, Mike Christian, Derek Hirst, Sue Cummings, Audrey Seidman and Betty Santoro went out to Long Island, first to the hospital, then to the 4th police precinct, and found Tom there.

4:50 a.m. (approx.) Take Tom home. Mike and Derek stay with him.

For further information, contact either Eric Rofes or Joyce Hunter at (212) 924-2970.

#

Chronology of Tom Abrams- June 26-27

8-8:15p.m. Tom Abrams leaves 156 Fifth Ave., CLGR-National March office.

9:15-9:30 Arrives home at East Rockaway

..5 min. Received a phone call from a female who said she thought she was gay, didn't want her parents to know, she needed someone to talk to. A friend told her that Tom worked for the National March. Tom asked if they could meet the next day. She said no, she needed to talk tonight. He invited her to his house, and she said she didn't know the neighborhood, would he meet her at the train station. She said she'd be in a blue car on the other side of the tracks. He agrees and leaves.

..10 min. Sees a blue car with the motor running. He opens the door as she smiles at him and invites him in. He gets in the car. He heard a rustle in the back seat. Felt a gun at the back of his head. Car begins to move. A man tells him to lean forward. Tom tried to turn around to see him, was pushed forward and stuck in the right pelvic area. Began to feel nauseous. The man said if he kept quiet everything would be alright. He felt a sick high. Remembers seeing street lights. Time lapse.....

Heard the man instruct the woman to pull over. Saw a beach from the corner of his eye. The man got out of the car (black man). He looked toward the beach with his back toward the car. Tom saw the woman looking stoned out and eased the car door open and kicked the man between the legs from behind. The man yelled out

Tom Abrams/2

and fell down. Tom ran to the beach. He heard the car leave while running. He froze at the water's edge. Saw a male and female couple walking on the beach, they probably saw him. Tom ran back underneath the boardwalk. Stumbled on a log, fell on face. Sat under the boardwalk for 10-15 minutes.

Went up to a phone at boardwalk. Took a piece of paper from his pocket with phone numbers. March number on top. Had no money, dialed operator. Placed collect call to

12:53 March office. Talked with people at office.

Police arrived and took him to Long Beach Hospital.

Questionned at hospital, doctor looked for puncture mark said he found none. Ordered no tests. Police requested

blood sample. Tom says that when it was obvious that he was gay he heard joking and snickering. Felt badly treated at the hospital. Police took him to the precinct.

Questinned in Fourth Precinct. Picked up by members of the March and Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Returned

approx. home. Two men stayed overnight with him.

5 a.m.

National March On Washington for Lesbians & Gay Rights

156 FIFTH AVENUE, RM. 505
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10010
(212) 924-2970

1724 20TH STREET N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009
(202) 667-0649

INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE
& NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

June 23, 1979

RONALD C. ALHEIM
DON AMADOR
STEVE AULT
MYRA BEALS
PAUL BONEBERG
ANER CANDELARIO
APRILLE COLLIER
ELEANOR COOPER
CHERYL DEANER
KATHI DENNIS
JERI DILNO
KAT DUVAL
JANE ELVIN
MARGO GEORGE
RITA GOLDBERGER
RAY HILL
AMY HOROWITZ
A. BILLY S. JONES
DAVID KNUDSEN

Hello,

This mailing will provide you with all the information you need on the upcoming Houston conference on the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. At this time we are anticipating attendance from all of the seven regions of the nation and delegates will be coming from as far away as Alaska and Hawaii. We expect this conference will be an important step in deciding march policy and plans and we encourage every area to do their best to send a delegation to Houston. Delegations are expected to include at least 50% women and should also be certain to include at least 20% Third World women. If you have any questions about delegations or the selection process for Houston, call the New York office.

RICK LANDMAN
RICK LANGE
DON MAGER
KONDA MASON
BRANDY MOORE
DONNA C. MOTLEY
KENT NAASZ
PHIL NASH
RON ORUC
LUVENIA PINSON
PAULINE POWLEDGE
GIL ROBISON
ERIC ROFES
BETTY SANTORO
STEVE SHIPLETT
JAVIER TAMEZ
SARRA VAN ARDALE
LORA WADEBAY
MIKE WILSON
COUNSEL: FRANKLIN E. KAMENY

CONFERENCE SITE

The conference will be held at the University of Houston in Houston, Texas from Friday afternoon, July 6 through Sunday afternoon, July 8. The University of Houston is at Cullen and Calhoun Sts. in Houston. If you are driving to the conference, take Interstate 45 South, which runs between Dallas and Galveston, and get off at the Cullen & Calhoun St. exit.

If you are flying to Houston and arriving at Intercontinental Airport, after leaving your plane, go to ground transportation and look for a sign with a pink triangle on it. If you find this sign, you will have found people who will shuttle you to the university. If you do not find this sign, you will have to get to the university on your own. If this happens, take the Air Coach (a bus) that stops at the Hyatt Regency Downtown (cost approx. \$4). Be certain to ask if it stops at the Hyatt because there are several different Air Coaches. You should get off the bus at the Hyatt Regency Downtown and take a cab (cost approx. \$3) to the University of Houston--Moody Towers, at Wheeler & Calhoun Streets.

If you are arriving at Hobby Airport--primarily intra-Texas flights--also look for the pink triangle sign near ground transportation. If you find the sign and the people, all is well. If not, take a cab directly to the university (approx. cost \$4.50).

REGISTRATION

The registration table for the conference is in Moody Towers at the University of Houston. They are the tallest buildings on campus and are

End to all social, economic, judicial and legal oppression of Lesbians & Gay people

located at the corners of Wheeler & Calhoun Streets. The registration desk and the conference greeters will be at the desk in the North Towers. They will facilitate your visit and they will be available from 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning. There is no registration fee for delegates to the conference.

HOUSING

Housing will be available in Moody Towers (dorm space) at the rate of \$9/night for a single room and \$8.50/night for a double. It is vital that you reserve your room immediately and you can do this by writing to:

Tim Gaudet
c/o Gay Resource Services
Box 309
University Center
University of Houston
Houston, Texas 77004

Tim can be reached by phone between 2-5 p.m. Houston time, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at (713) 749-3489. Again, write or call him today as his committee must let the university know by next week how many rooms are needed.

FOOD

This is an important issue for many of us and food will be available at restaurants and snack shoppes within walking distance from the conference site. On Friday evening, the Houston delegation will host a supper reception for the conference delegates. On Saturday and Sunday, sandwiches and light snacks and drinks will be sold outside the conference hall. If you have special dietary needs, please try to make certain you can provide for yourself, or contact Tim at the Houston phone number.

THE CONFERENCE

People should plan on being at conference sessions from Friday night at 6:00-10:00, Saturday from 9:00 a.m.- 11:00 p.m., and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until whenever we finish. While there will be ample break time within this schedule and the starting hour may be moved up, there is quite a lot of business to accomplish and we may need to be awake and working at the nine o'clock hour. While this may change, please arrive by 6 p.m. Friday and try to stay until Sunday evening. The conference is wheelchair accessible and will be signed for the hearing-impaired. The plenary sessions will be recorded and we are in the process of arranging for a skilled note-taker from the Houston area.

Free childcare will be available during the entire conference. Please let Tim Gaudet know if you will be needing this service as soon as possible.

AGENDA & PROCESS

A committee will be meeting beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 5 at the Moody Towers at the University of Houston to work towards facilitating the process of the conference and to work out an agenda. If you are interested in working with this committee, or if you are skilled in facilitating discussions, send the Agenda Committee this information c/o the New York office. Any agenda items, proposals, caucuses, position papers, that your delegation is bringing to Houston must be sent to the Agenda Committee by June 28. Send these to David Knudson c/o CGA Box 39 The Carolina Union, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514. The committee needs this information to plan a complete agenda for the conference.

Major decisions concerning process will be made at the opening session on Friday night. The Agenda Committee will have worked up proposals to make to the body at this session concerning the process for the weekend.

PROXY VOTING

This is one of the issues that will be discussed on Friday evening. Some areas will not be sending full delegations due to the lack of available funds. Feelings towards proxy voting seem motivated by the desire to acknowledge that every area is not able to raise funds, as well as the desire to have as full regional representation as possible. Feelings against proxies seem motivated by the fear that people will choose not to come to Houston if someone else can register their vote, as well as the fear of the complexities of facilitating proxy voting.

The Agenda Committee will be discussing this issue in the days before the conference, but it will eventually be decided by the assembly. A recommendation for proxies from several states includes the provision that no one person could carry more than one proxy. Therefore, if a delegation that has 4 delegates only sends one to Houston, the person could only have 1 proxy vote, as opposed to 3. The proposal includes the request that only men carry men's proxies and only women carry women's proxies. The same concerns apply to the race of the person not in attendance. Third World people can carry Third World proxies, and white people can carry white proxies. And one can only carry a proxy vote from one's own area.

Again, this has not been decided and it should not become a major issue. Give it some thought and discussion time and, if you are not sending a full delegation, in case proxies do get approved by the assembly, bring a written statement from the person whose proxies you are carrying, stating that you are representing them.

We will also attempt to make phone lines available if proxies are permitted, so people can be in touch with the person they're representing. This may not be possible.

AGENDA ISSUES

After calling around the country, it seems that many diverse proposals will be made at Houston and everyone is committed to getting work done this weekend. So that delegation can be prepared for the issues that may arise, and so that constituencies can be consulted before leaving for Houston, below is a partial list of the items that may arise at Houston:

- The date of the march
- The demands of the march (add some, take some away, simplify, Demand #5...)
- Events during the Oct. 14 weekend (march, rally, celebration, workshops, lobbying, street fair, will anything happen on Saturday?)
- Transportation & Housing (how will we get there? where will we sleep? will we sleep?)
- Where should the march and rally take place?
- Financial resources (where is it coming from & going?)
- National structure (coordinating committee/steering committee/National Board)
- Protection & security for the march (nonviolence training, marshalls, police)
- Committee structure
- Entertainers, speakers, cultural workers
- Offices & staffing

Again, if you have proposals to make, please send them to Dave Knudson and the Agenda Committee by June 28.

BRING TO HOUSTON:

Whenever possible, bring the following with your delegation to Houston:

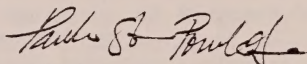
- All media coverage of the March, to date, in your area (press clippings...)
- All publicity, posters, buttons, press releases that your committee has developed
- List of endorsers from your area, with addresses and phone numbers
- Mailing list of local Third World caucus or individuals
- A typed, accurate list of the addresses, phone numbers and positions of your area delegates, alternates, facilitators...(this is vital!)
- Media lists, especially sympathetic contacts at specific media outlets
- Fund raising possibilities in your area, on a list.
- A ~~commitment~~ to bring about a successful conference...

The above list must be attended to before you come to Houston. The registration desk will take these lists from you and they will be collated. Our national offices need this information.

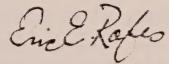
Remember to publicize the National Third World Gay Conference along with your publicizing of the march. People working on this conference will have information for you in Houston.

There is a lot of information here. If you have any questions, phone the New York office at 212 924 2970. We have a lot of work to do at this conference in planning our March on Washington. We look forward to meeting with you, working with you, and having some fun, too. See you in Houston!

Best,



Pauline S. Powledge
New York



Eric E. Rofes
Boston

* Be certain to let Tim Gaudet know when you are arriving and your housing needs as soon as possible at 713 749 3489 in Houston.

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS

156 5th Ave. Room 505 NY, NY 10010 (212) 924-2970

June 24, 1979

Dear fellow march organizers:

Pending the approval next week of the Houston conference, the March on Washington will open within weeks a 24-hour, toll-free Travel Information Center designed to aid our sisters and brothers everywhere in their plans for transportation to the march. A caller from any area of the country can get concise information on march events and up-to-the-minute data on transportation available from his/her city. Since the system is wholly computerized, instant carpooling can also be arranged in the one call.

We are pleased to announce that the phone lines, computer system and professional services for the Information Center have been donated at cost by a travel wholesaler in the Phoenix area. The March's regional coordinator there, Jay Myers, has worked hard and effectively to train a staff of supervisors and volunteer operators. This plan - first in history for a March On Washington - will definitely make a difference in the overall success of our March - but only with your help!

We need your assistance with the following tasks:

1) Develop a solid transportation contact in your area. Most areas of the country are discovering local travel agents (preferably gay and lesbian oriented) can provide the resources, know-how and fast service required. Whether your area uses an agency, a committee or a single travel organizer, we need their name(s) and phone number by the end of the Houston conference. We will be in weekly contact with them through the march date to keep our info center data up to date and to advise on good plane, train, bus and hotel buys.

If you have a transportation contact for your area already, please have them call us at 703-549-5745 (collect if necessary) or, after next week, at the new M.O.W. office in Washington c/o directory assistance.

If you are at a loss and need a good agency or advisor to work with in the travel industry, call Bennie, Marguerita or Gary at 1-800-528-2351.

NOTE: THIS IS NOT THE TOLL-FREE TRAVEL INFO NUMBER; IT WILL BE RELEASED AT THE HOUSTON CONFERENCE.

2) Supervise publicity in your area for the March Travel Information Center. At the Houston conference, we will distribute (A) posters in two sizes (18 x 30 & 9 X 14) advertising the Travel Info Center telephone number and (B) original artwork of a card-size handout displaying the toll-free number, to be printed in your area. Please appoint a delegate to pick-up these publicity tools and safely return them to your city or town for wide distribution.

A news conference detailing the Travel Information Center operation will be held Saturday, July 7 at the Houston conference. Please ask a delegate from your area to contact local gay and lesbian publications and

June 24, 1979

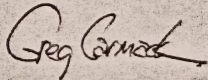
page two

offer to attend this news briefing as their "reporter." We will have news releases and (hopefully) photos of the phone operation available in the quantity you need to prepare a complete news story for your hometown newspapers and journals. Be sure to include data available on your area's local transportation plans in your "coverage."

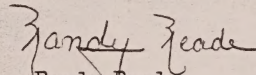
3) Complete and return to the March Travel table at Houston the enclosed "FAXSHEET". If you are unable to either attend or send a delegate from your area to Houston next week, please mail the FAXSHEET directly there as soon as possible c/o Ray Hill, POB 3624, Houston 77001.

We would like to thank the good people who have helped us work against dwindling time to pull together the many ends of the National Transportation Operation. The scope of this plan can capacitate the largest mass transport of people in U.S. history. We call upon our sisters and brothers in the local organizing committees to help us add the human element to this plan and make real an outstanding March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

See you in Washington!



Greg Carmack
Transportation Coordinator


Randy Reade
Staff Assistant

*PLEASE DELIVER THIS COMPLETED FORM TO MARCH TRAVEL TABLE AT HOUSTON CONFERENCE *

FAXSHEET - Confidential background information for National Transportation Office file.

METROPOLITAN AREA (OR RURAL LOCALE): _____ STATE: _____

NAME(S) OF PRIME MARCH ORGANIZER(S): (NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP, PHONE #'s, BEST
TIME TO CALL, ETC)

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CONTACT PERSON: (NAME, ADDRESS, CITY STATE, ZIP, PHONE #'s, BEST
TIME TO CALL - IF UNAVAILABLE, LIST TEMPORARY)

ANY ACTION TAKEN YET ON SEAT RESERVATIONS? PLEASE DESCRIBE: _____

TYPES OF TRANSPORTATION YOUR AREA WILL MOST LIKELY PREFER: _____

ANY LESBIAN/GAY ORIENTED TRAVEL AGENTS IN YOUR AREA? PLEASE LIST W/ADDRESS & PHONE IF
POSSIBLE: _____

WHO FROM YOUR AREA WILL: 1) PICK UP PUBLICITY TOOLS IN HOUSTON, 2) SUPERVISE DISTRIBUTION
OF PUBLICITY POSTERS AND BILLS, 3) REPRESENT LOCAL GAY PUBLICATIONS AT NEWS CONFERENCE
ON JULY 7 IN HOUSTON? PLEASE INCLUDE NAMES & LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS, BEST TIMES TO CALL:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

PLEASE LIST ON REVERSE SIDE THE TOP LESBIAN & GAY PUBLICATIONS, RADIO, TV, ETC IN YOUR
AREA. INCLUDE ADDRESSES, PHONES AND A GOOD CONTACT PERSON IF POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.

PLEASE NAME ANY AIRLINES, BUS LINES, RAILROAD-PASSENGER OR CARPOOLING AGENCIES THAT
SERVE YOUR AREA. THANK YOU. (ADDRESSES OPTIONAL)

PERSON PREPARING THIS FAXSHEET: _____

PLEASE ATTACH ANY COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS OR CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISMS TO THIS SHEET. WE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT.

1. The following information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

2. The information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

3. The information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

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SPEAKING OUT

C. F. Brydon

NGTF is now, has been, and will continue to be generally supportive of the March on Washington. As an organization NGTF supports all responsible efforts of gay people to eradicate homophobia. Automatic or knee-jerk NGTF support for every idea that comes down the pike, however, would be irresponsible to our members and other organizations that look to NGTF for leadership.

NGTF has not "endorsed" the March to date. As Lucia Valeska indicated in her interview in these pages last week, the Board is "looking to find a way to support the March." Board concerns focus on what are considered serious deficiencies in planning and the organizing structure which must be addressed if there is to be a truly successful March.

Given NGTF's critics' misinterpretations of the Executive Committee's April resolution on the March, the crucial points need restatement. NGTF supports:

- (1) the statement of demands adopted at the February 1979 Philadelphia conference (point 5 as subsequently revised);
- (2) the concept of public demonstrations in support of lesbian and gay rights; and
- (3) our members who choose to participate in the March.

The foregoing has been backed up with action by NGTF through the help provided the Philadelphia conference organizers and by making clear to Steve Ault and others in the March organization that our door is open to them. We are prepared to respond to further requests for assistance within the limits of our tight resources and commitment to ongoing NGTF program.

The NGTF Board of Directors has expressed concern about several planning and organizational matters, however. Some of these are political policy questions. Others are management issues that must be dealt with responsibly and with integrity if March organizers are to have the trust and confidence, not just of NGTF, but all gay people.

(1) Lesbian Visibility: A clear policy on lesbian participation including a place for women at the head of the march, provision of a separate women's contingent for those desiring it, child care provisions, participation by women in the media planning team and as spokespersons, inclusion of women in March planning leadership roles and in the rally program.

(2) Third World Visibility: A clear policy on the inclusion and participation of Third World lesbians and gay men in the March itself, on the rally program and at all levels of organization and operations.

(3) Public Disclosure: Disclosure of a financial profile of significant backers (including contributors of in-kind goods and services) of the March be they institutional, private enterprise or individuals. (Small private contributors are not a concern for disclosure purposes and a reasonable threshold can be established in this regard.) Gay people are entitled to the benefits of a "sunshine" policy to protect our community from those who would use the closet as a cover-up. Legitimate individuals and institutions have nothing to fear a decade after Stonewall.

(4) Public Accounting: Implement a sound system run by experienced persons for the receipt, expenditure and accounting of all funds raised for the March including publication of an audited financial report at the end of the project.

(5) Hold Harmless: We understand a March organization will be incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. The Directors of this

corporation need to pass a resolution agreeing to hold all "endorsing" organizations harmless from any and all liabilities arising out of the March and set aside an appropriate amount of money or arrange adequate insurance to pay for any bodily injury or property damage to third parties. Consultations with organizations with recent experience in D.C. marches would establish adequate coverage for this purpose.

(6) Age of Consent: No inclusion of the age of consent issue as an articulated March demand.

(7) Data Protection: We understand the March has and is accumulating names and addresses of persons interested in the March. In addition, a computer-based system for travel coordination will also contain names and addresses. Whatever the source, a written policy is needed covering data security (physical and electronic) and disposition of the data at the end of the March. Specifically, regarding post-March disposition, provisions to insure full destruction of the data or to guarantee the list will be available to all national gay organizations equitably under standard rules and procedures.

These are the Board's significant concerns. The Houston Conference July 7 and 8 will provide an opportunity for response.

From a personal perspective and reflecting the thoughts of some NGTF staff persons, the March needs a clear structure with experienced and knowledgeable persons assigned specific responsibilities along with commensurate authority to get the job done. Anything less spells serious problems.

An organization with a structure that does not inspire confidence and trust across the broad diversity of humanity that is our gay community will experience serious financial difficulties and raise major questions about the adequacy of planning to assure the security and safety of all

participants. With respect to the latter, whatever happens, gay people, regardless of their numbers, must not be exposed to danger because of inadequacy of planning. Security must be a number one planning priority.

Apart from questions of financial viability and security, a good structure staffed by capable, experienced and salaried persons (it's time we start paying our movement workers for the skills they contribute to our liberation) must address these questions:

What will be done to publicize the March well in advance so as to attract crowds and the press? Committed movement people have from moderate to extensive knowledge about the March. However, it is my experience that most gay people are unaware about what is going on. In short, publicity that mobilizes widespread interest and secures active participation by all gay persons must be produced. With three months to go, this has not happened. Where are the experienced people who can do this?

What efforts are being made to get well known speakers and entertainers? The size of the crowd, the quality and quantity of advance publicity and coverage will depend to a large extent on major figures who can be advertised as participating. This does not mean a gay event taken over by nongay stars and politicians. It does mean their participation can be used as a public relations tool. One Governor (California?) could turn the thing into a big event. And attempts must be made to get a major entertainer or two, with political purity questions left on the back burner.

What is to be the theme that conveys the message loud and clear? The five demands are fine but incomprehensible to a mass audience fed by a media that deals in short and concise phrases and ideas. Gay people don't want press reports that simply note that thousands of people gathered in a particular place. The public must understand why gay people were there. This means a clear and simple theme backed up by the five demands which

in turn are fleshed out with examples of the nature and extent of public and private discrimination. All this material plus copies of the principal speeches must be packaged and in the hands of the media in advance. It also means extensive advance discussions with the media about the kind of coverage we want and will find acceptable. It means heavy pressure on the networks, newsweeklies and daily press to provide adequate coverage and adequate background information to their audience. Where are the experienced, knowledgeable and salaried people to do this?

What about logistics? This is more than a grand travel plan. It is money in the bank, not pledges; it is a full time liaison with the federal government and city of Washington; it is a plan to coordinate police, sanitation (how many rolls of toilet paper will 50 or 100 thousand marchers use in one day, and at how many porta-johns?), health, transit within the city, accommodations (analysis of resources apart from hotels), childcare, and on and on and on. Can it be pulled together with experienced people by October 14 so that participants will not feel victimized or misled?

What is being done to determine what results are expected? Just putting a lot of people together will not do it. Specific responses to the five demands are highly unlikely (with the possible exception of an Executive Order, if that was made a key focus, citing Governor Brown's action earlier this year as an example that it can be done). But apart from this, results must be seen in terms of public relations or in another phrase, public education value. Needless to say, effective public relations does not mean playing down militancy or hedging positions so that they are less frightening to the homophobes. It does mean the ideas presented must come across clearly. It does mean that gay people must be perceived as a positive and joyful part of humanity and a nationwide political force which cannot be ignored.

These are a few of the thoughts that have been raised in my mind and by thoughtful staff members of NGTF who want to see a successful March or would rather wait until success can be assured. A successful and positive expression of gay humanity is what all gay people want in Washington. A poor turnout, violence, botched media relations, negative portrayals of who we really are are genuine fears and concerns expressed by many people who are generally supportive of the March. We all want it done right, and given enough time, it can be done. The only question is can it happen in the time remaining? The Houston Conference will provide an opportunity to address all of these questions. The results of Houston will tell all of us whether this March can succeed.

One final point, included at the request of an NGTF Board member. NGTF is not interested in control of the March. Some critics have raised that point. This is plain wrong. We have an obligation both as an organization and as leaders active in the movement to express our views. This is what we have done in the past and will continue to do in the future. Expression of opinion, however, does not imply a desire for control or interest or lack of interest in some role in this project.